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Governor Culver Declares April 25 – May 1 Insurance Fraud Awareness Week

Insurance fraud comes in many forms: arson, staged accidents, vehicle owner give-ups, falsified or exaggerated injuries, and healthcare fraud just to name a few. The fact is any form of insurance fraud is a serious crime and it costs consumers billions of dollars annually. Iowa Governor Chet Culver recognized the negative financial and emotional impact insurance fraud has caused the citizens of Iowa by proclaiming April 25 – May 1, 2010 “Insurance Fraud Awareness Week” in the State of Iowa. The proclamation raises awareness of the insurance fraud problem and enlists the support of all Iowans in the fight against insurance fraud.

Joining in support of the governor’s proclamation are the Iowa-Nebraska Chapter of the International Association of Special Investigation Units (IA-NE IASIU), the Iowa Insurance Fraud Bureau (IFB), the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud (CAIF), the National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association (NHCAA), the Heartland Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and the Des Moines Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners.

In conjunction with the governor’s proclamation, the Iowa-Nebraska Chapter of the International Association of Special Investigation Units is hosting a two day insurance fraud seminar, April 27th – 28th at the Courtyard by Marriott in Ankeny, IA. Participants will hear from law enforcement and insurance industry experts on the many different kinds of insurance fraud and effective ways to detect and defeat fraud. For more information, please contact David Sullivan, President of the IA-NE IASIU at 515-343-7594.

The supporters of Insurance Fraud Awareness Week want to encourage all Iowans to help themselves by getting involved with the fight against insurance fraud. For more information about insurance fraud and how you can help fight fraud, visit these websites: www.insurancefraud.org (CAIF), www.nicb.org (NICB), www.nhcaa.org (NHCAA).

Iowans should report suspected fraud by calling the Iowa Insurance Fraud Bureau at 877-955-1212, the NICB Hotline at 800-TEL-NICB or their local law enforcement agency. You can also submit an online fraud report to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners at www.naic.org or call their hotline at 866-470-NAIC.

The following representatives of the organizations supporting Insurance Fraud Awareness Week will be available for comment:

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